

them from those in churches of earlier date. Externally the walls are decorated with blank arcades of semicircular arches, arranged in two stories,—resembling very much the churches sculptured on the marble fonts in Winchester Cathedral, and in the neighbouring one of East Meon, as figured by Dr. Milner and

others,—and the lower of these arcades is carried round the southern tower. Internally the side walls are decorated with similar arcades, except that, in the nave, the arches do not spring from columns, but from square pilasters. These pilasters have impost mouldings resting on billets, and are ornamented

two houses which disfigure and conceal part of the porch, and for the convenience of which the tower has been cut away and endangered. By this means a sum has been collected not however adequate to meet the necessary expenses, Mr. Tymms therefore expressed the hope that by the liberal exertion of those generally interested in archaeology, the further subscription requisite might be collected, so that the repair, which daily becomes more urgently necessary, might be commenced.

Mr. J. W. Burgon exhibited a Roman brick, discovered in making the foundations of the Post-office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, inscribed with the letters L O N. The word L O N occurs on the coins of Constantine the Great and other late emperors, and has been considered by numismatists to indicate *Londonium* as the place of mintage. This brick is, therefore, probably, in like manner, stamped with the place of manufacture—London. Several bricks of this kind are known to have been discovered.

Mr. Proctor communicated a drawing of an inscribed cross at Bishop Barton, in the high road from York to Beverley, which is supposed to have been one of four crosses marking the limits of the sanctuary at Beverley.

Mr. Alexander Nesbit communicated a report on four churches in Norfolk, which he conceived to contain portions of Saxon architecture, Roughton, Bassingham, Gresham, and Thwaite. The two first of these churches have each a round tower at the west end. In the upper part of the tower are four windows facing the cardinal points, divided by a single pier and terminating in a triangular head, formed of two lintel stones placed at an angle to each other. At Roughton the central pier as well as the jambs are built of courses of stones rudely shaped with a hammer. At Bassingham the central pier on each side is formed of a single stone; a capital is slightly indicated in the pier of the west window.

Each window at Bassingham has a projecting course of small stones roughly squared surrounding it. The lower part of this tower is formed of large stones scarcely dressed. Both these structures are built of the coarse red sandstone of the neighbourhood, which is not used in the Norman or later styles when flint and onlitz were substituted. Norman remains, Mr. Nesbit stated, are very rare in this neighbourhood. Only one of these churches is mentioned in Domesday-book, but we cannot infer from this that they were not then erected.

A letter was read from the Rev. H. Longueville Jones, local sec., relative to the excavations now actively in progress on the site of Segontium, stating that great stimulus had been given to the subscription in aid of this object, by the recent donation of 5l. from the committee of the Institute. The letter also called attention to the state of the ancient walls of Caernarvon, and Mr. Jones expressed the hope that these interesting specimens of military architecture might not be suffered to fall into decay, but that the example of Government might be followed who had repaired Caernarvon Castle with the most praiseworthy care (?).

A number of antiquities were exhibited by various members, but we have not space to particularize them.

INSTITUTE OF THE FINE ARTS.

DECORATIVE ART.

ON Saturday evening last, this society held a meeting in the great room at the Society of Arts, Mr. T. L. Donaldson in the chair.

Mr. Buss read an interesting paper on the union of historical and decorative art. He alluded to the new and extraordinary stimulus given to the pursuit of high art during the last three years, under the auspices of the Royal Commission of Fine Arts, and expressed a conviction that the artists had answered the call made upon their talents in a manner more gratifying than could have been anticipated by those who were aware of the little encouragement previously held out for the cultivation of the highest department of art. The possession of a great school of historical painting by any country was not the work of a moment, and those who dwelt so much upon the superiority of the French and German schools ought to recollect the immense sums of money constantly expended during a long series of years, and the rewards of rank and honour so liberally distributed by royalty, to the eminent

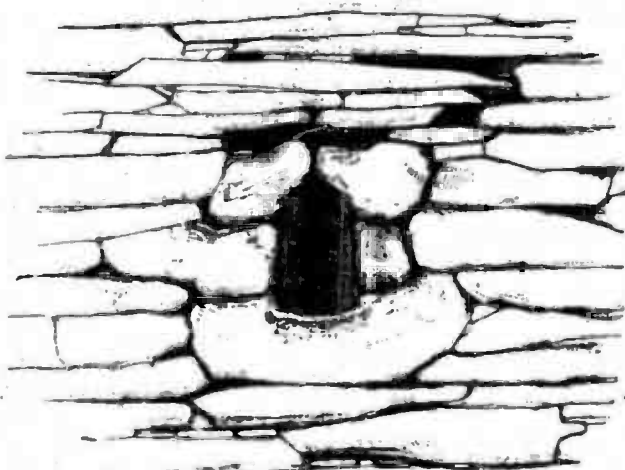


Fig. 5.

with the lozenge, batched, checked, star, and other mouldings, characteristic of the Norman style; and the arches exhibit the zig-zag moulding both on their faces and soffits. Above these arcades the north and south walls of the nave are ornamented with a series of stunted semicolumns, resting on a projecting string-course chamfered underneath; and from the capitals of these spring square ribs, which support and decorate the semicircular roof.

The entrance doorways are also richly ornamented, both on their shafts, capitals, and arches, and they present, moreover, very curious grotesque sculptures on their lintels.

The book is profusely illustrated, and forms a very valuable contribution towards the history of architecture in Ireland.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

This body held its periodical meeting on the 28th ult. Several new associates were elected.

The secretary read the following admirable letter from Mons. Victor Hugo on his election as an associate:—

"Je suis heureux, monsieur, d'applaudir au mouvement archéologique de l'Angleterre. L'Angleterre est une grande nation, qui a eu une grande architecture. L'architecture, c'est l'histoire d'un peuple qui s'écrit dans ses monuments. Conserver les monuments, c'est sauver la grandeur du passé. La France commence à comprendre cette vérité; l'Europe entière la comprendra un jour. Passe Dieu seulement que ce ne soit pas trop tard!

"Tout ce qui se fait en Angleterre dans ce grand but, national pour vous, historique pour nous, a d'avance ma sympathie. C'est donc de tout mon cœur que je vous envoie l'adhésion que vous avez bien voulu me faire l'honneur de me demander.

"Agréez, monsieur, l'assurance cordiale de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

"VICTOR HUGO."

The Rev. Beale Post communicated some discoveries in the neighbourhood of East Farley, Kent, consisting of some Romano-British urns (similar to those discovered at Caistor) containing burnt human bones; fibulae, &c. Mr. M. A. Lower furnished a report of further discoveries at Lewes Priory, also a fac-simile of the inscription on the tomb of Gundreda, in Southover church. Mr. Lower stated, that in digging to the east of the foundations of the church, the railway excavators cut through an immense pit more than 18 feet in depth, completely full of human bones, the ditch from which was so great that the workmen were obliged to descend; upwards of twenty tons of bones were removed from this charnel-house; he supposes they had

probably been interred there after the battle of Lewes in the thirteenth century. The paper was accompanied by a plan of the conventual buildings hitherto discovered, and drawings of the various remains which have come to light.

A very interesting and amusing paper by Mr. John Barrow, of the Admiralty, was then read, "On the uniform of the admirals in the reign of George II.," illustrated by some dresses of the period, lately found in the stores at Plymouth, and some notes from Sir Henry Ellis on the subject.

The president forwarded, for exhibition, a curious sword and boss of a shield, discovered in Ireland.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

NORMAN GATE-TOWER—AND CHURCHES.

At the 2nd meeting of the committee for the exhibition of antiquities, and for archaeological discussion, held on Friday, the 30th ult., a letter was read from Mr. Edward Richardson, the sculptor, giving an account of further excavations on the site of the priory at Lewes, to which we have referred elsewhere. It stated that as all the Caen stone foundations are taken up by the workmen for the sake of the material, a most perfect outline of the ground plan is left for the moment, and he suggested that some artist should be employed to make a plan of the whole building, before the further railway operations efface these traces.

A letter was read from Mr. Tymms, local secretary, at Bury St. Edmunds, calling the attention of the committee to the present ruinous state of the interesting Norman gate-tower there, built by Abbot Baldwin, A.D. 1095, which was subsequently used as the campanile of the parish church of St. James. There are several remarkable features about the architecture of this tower. On the west side is a stone porch with a penthouse roof projecting from it about five feet, within is a rich archway springing from sculptured capitals, the tower is surmounted by battlements, believed to be part of the original design, and among the earliest known specimens of embrasure work in England. The whole of the masonry of this tower is in a very crippled state, particularly on the east side, in several instances the disruption has been so complete, that a person in the interior can see through the core of the building into the churchyard.

A report having been made by Mr. Cottingham, stating the dangerous state of this tower, a committee of nobleman and gentlemen was appointed to raise the funds necessary for its proper repair and for the purchase of the